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FOR THE GAZETTE OF THE UNITED STATES.

OBSERVATIONS ON THE Whale-fiſhery and Seal-catching.

IT has been verified from experience, that WHALES change their places of reſort in conſequence of the continual warfare againſt them. At the firſt ſettlement of this country, WHALES were commonly found on theſe coaſts, and not unfrequently drove aſhore. The WHALE FISHERY, carried on by the Dutch, Engliſh, and our countrymen, in the northern ſeas, was formerly very productive; but of late years, veſſels frequently returned home without the leaſt ſucceſs. The preſent rout of WHALES is along the Brazil coaſt; and they are ſtill tending ſouthward, ſo that there can be little doubt but in a few years, the WHALE-FISHERY will be proſecuted in as high a ſouthern, as it has been in a northern latitude.

A very ſerious inconvenience will ariſe from this change, which is indeed already experienced; and more particularly when veſſels are unſucceſsful, which often happens: That is, the extreme length of the voyage, which occaſions an increaſe of the expences of outfit. To remedy, in an eſſential manner, this very ſerious inconvenience, which may eventually diſcourage this valuable branch of fiſhery, the following hints are ſuggeſted.

From ſome late voyages to the Faulkland iſlands, which have been ſufficiently ſucceſsful to prove the experiment, there can be no doubt but by connecting the two objects of WHALING and SEALING, a very profitable voyage would be made. Should the whaling voyage prove ſucceſsful, the veſſel returns home to a ſure and certain market. If only partially ſucceſsful, or totally unſucceſsful, let the veſſel run to the Falkland-Iſlands, and undertake the killing of Seals, which are to be found in different parts of thoſe innumerable inlets and iſlands. A knowledge of their haunts, notwithſtanding the pretenſions to the contrary, can be readily acquired by a perſevering ſearch. SEALS abound in vaſt numbers, and keep together in herds. They are ſo harmleſs and tame, as to ſuffer themſelves to be knocked down with clubs, the only weapon uſed in killing them. The point is to get between them and the ſhore when in a *rookery*, as it is phraſed, of 1500 SEALS, not ten will eſcape, and a crew of twelve men will ſometimes kill as many, or more, in one day. The Nantucket and eaſtern part of Long-Iſland Whalemen, will find themſelves peculiarly adapted for this buſineſs, as being accuſtomed to live aſhore as well as follow the ſeas—hunting is familiar to them. Many advantages are loſt by the inexperience of the crews in this trade, and the novelty of the buſineſs. They are generally at firſt ſo terrified with the grinning and howlings of the SEALS, as to ſuffer a few to break thro the line which intercepts their communication with the ſea, which if once accompliſhed, it is almoſt impoſſible to prevent the whole herd from eſcaping. Great reſolution and alertneſs is therefore required, and the latter being a qualification which ordinary ſeamen are ſeldom remarkable for aſhore, will prove the ſuperior advantages of our Eaſtern Whalemen, in this particular, which is a very eſſential one.

Seal-catching has hitherto been proſecuted merely for the ſake of the ſkins. The *Hair-Seals* are ſervicable for *Leather*, and will ſell at market from 10 to 12 cents, pr. lb. eſpecially the ſmaller kind, which are in great eſtimation for fine ſhoes. The FUR-SEALS are an object of remittance to Canton, and tho hitherto ſold from half to three quarters of a dollar, pr. ſkin, will, no doubt, upon a fair experiment of the China-market, bring more. The ſkin of the *Fur-Seal* with the Fur on, when properly dreſſed, makes exceeding handſome Waiſtcoat-Patterns, and might be introduced for that purpoſe; they are of a more durable nature, and would be very ſerviceable, eſpecially to labourers, having all the advantages, without the inconvenience of leather.

There is another advantage to be derived, which has hitherto been overlooked, and that is, *the making of Oil from the Seals*, which are remarkably fat and oily. There can be no doubt at all, but a very conſiderable benefit would ariſe on this ſcore, and no perſons can be better qualified to make the experiment than the Eaſtern Whalemen. The crew of a veſſel will be at very little expence for proviſions, except bread, as great plenty of Hogs are to be taken with dogs, and wild fowl, ſuch as Ducks, Geeſe, &c. are ſo abundant and tame, as to be knocked down with clubs, and afford very good ſuſtenance. Their feathers may likewiſe be ſaved—and afford another object of profit.

By wintering in theſe Iſlands, frequent chances offer of going out with boats and taking Whales, which approach very near. Likewiſe great quantities of Oil may be made from *Sea-Lions*, and a large fiſh called the *Black Fiſh*, which are very plenty, and ſo large, as to afford [illegible] two to three barrels each.

By exploring this hitherto little frequented part of the world, other advantages may poſſibly be found; but that ariſing from ſealing is already proved from actual experiment. SEALS likewiſe abound on the oppoſite ſhores of Patagonia, where the trade may be carried on without any difficulties but what may ariſe from a coaſt, as yet little navigated.

The writer of theſe obſervations has been induced to offer them ſolely from a motive of communicating to his fellow-citizens at large, a branch of commerce, that promiſes conſiderable benefit to the United States, conceiving it to be the duty of every perſon to add, as far as is in his power, to the common ſtock of national profit and happineſs. The remarks are founded upon an actual knowledge of facts. The few voyages which have hitherto been made, have been conducted with affected ſecrecy. It is impoſſible, however, to withhold for any length of time, what is neceſſarily imparted to many. To blend the two voyages of WHALING and SEALING, appears to be extremely feaſible, and likely to produce a ſure ſucceſs; and every means that may tend to promote the navigation of the United States, will, however, humbly repreſented, be, no doubt, candidly accepted.

The Tablet.—No. 150.

[Continuation from the laſt number.]

"Conqueſt and plunder bring, with riches, a train of pernicious vices; but this does not prove that the wealth attending induſtry and commerce, is pernicious alſo."

TO contemplate the cauſes which have operated in the riſe, the progreſs, and the decline of nations, is a taſk which no legiſlator or civilian can too often impoſe upon himſelf. Thoſe, who employ their reflections in this way, will diſcover ſome events, which, under certain circumſtances, have a pernicious influence upon ſociety; while others, of a like nature, in a different ſtate of affairs, produce a ſeries of the moſt important advantages. For inſtance, wealth and luxury may puſh one nation into ſudden deſtruction, while they raiſe another into power and diſtinction, and contribute to enlarge the circle of general enjoyment, as well as to ſecure the continuance of rational freedom. I will now ſubmit to the conſideration of the reader, a few ſketches upon the ſituation and character of the Romans, with a view of aſcertaining what occaſioned the riſe and downfall of that nation. It ſhall then be enquired of him, whether he ſeriouſly believes the affairs of the United States can ever flouriſh or decay, from ſimilar cauſes.

That the Romans made ſuch a conſpicuous figure upon the ſtage of human affairs, was originally owing to the mere accident of their being introduced by ſuch a founder as *Romulus*. Had any of the neighboring ſtates been conducted by a leader of ſuperior addreſs, and who poſſeſſed greater talents for plunder, the name of Rome had perhaps never reached poſterity. To the ſingle circumſtance therefore of his intrigue and enterprize, muſt be aſcribed their original aſcendancy over other nations. After they had once taken the lead, and begun to ſpread their conqueſts and dominion about the contiguous country, it was almoſt impoſſible their career ſhould be checked. There was no ſyſtem of combination in the adjacent ſtates, that could bring their forces to act in ſuch concert, as to make an effectual ſtand againſt the Roman arms. Their government was erected for the ſole purpoſe of war. Their ſituation was favorable to this object, and no other. The age in which they lived was martial. They were poor, and of courſe, habitudes of ſimplicity and ſelf-denial roſe naturally from that poverty. Perſonal ſafety, and the defence of the ſtate were ſo blended, that the idea could not be ſeparated. Valor was almoſt the only quality in repute, becauſe it was almoſt the only one that was uſeful. The love of eſteem is ſo ſtrong a paſſion, that moſt men cultivate thoſe qualities which will gain it. This accounts for their ſo much boaſted amor patriæ. Their fidelity to government was no leſs ſecured by the rigors of ſuperſtition, than it was incited by a deſire of plunder.

Who does not perceive, in ſuch a fabric, a conſtant effort, exiſting within itſelf, to fall to pieces? Such a people cannot be ſuppoſed to keep themſelves together without perpetual war. If they have no foreign wars, they probably will have contentions at home; and what they call the period of peace, is preciſely the time, when they will moſt harraſs and deſtroy one another. In ſhort, they muſt be gaining conqueſts over other nations, or they fall into factions, and precipitate themſelves into ruin at once. The effect of conqueſts is wealth and inſolence. Their public virtue reſults from nothing but their danger and their poverty. But the period muſt arrive, when their ſituation will be no longer hazardous or indigent. What is the conſequence? Their ſevere diſcipline, and rigid maxims, which were a ſubſtitute for private virtue, are ſhaken by faction, and relaxed by pleaſure. Riches, pouring in from conqueſts, introduce crimes and profligacy, and thus the ſpirit, and even the name of civil liberty is loſt in the general depravity. Is there not an eſſential difference between the effect of wealth thus acquired, and that which is the reward of arts and induſtry? Why does a robber or a gambler make a wanton uſe of the property he acquires? Becauſe, the diſpoſition, which urges him to aſſume ſuch a character and conduct, implies ſuch a want of principle, as renders him unfit to hold any of the bleſſings of life. Wealth will not proſper in ſuch hands. The caſe is much the ſame with a nation of plunderers, as with a private robber. Both have hearts too unfeeling and abandoned to uſe the gifts of providence with decency and moderation. Exceſs and brutality will mark their actions. They are ſtrangers to thoſe reſtraints and refinements, which the uſeful employments of civil life create and ſupport; and which guard people againſt thoſe atrocious crimes, no leſs than againſt the dangerous extremes of vice and folly.

It is a maxim that will generally hold good, that no individual or community will make a proper application of wealth, which they have not honeſtly acquired. I will even carry the idea further and ſuggeſt, that wealth is apt to be miſapplied by thoſe who have not been perſonally inſtrumental in earning it, under circumſtances that required ſome care and induſtry. It may illuſtrate the idea to ſtate a caſe. No perſon will preſume to ſay that the citizens of Philadelphia do not make a prudent and even a commendable uſe of their riches. But if that city ſhould fall into the hands of an army of Tartars, and the property be divided as plunder among the ſoldiers, who does not paint to himſelf the horrid miſchiefs that would be perpetrated! How ſuddenly would the diſcipline of that army be diſſolved! How quick would their military ardor be diſſipated and loſt! Each ſoldier would imagine, the ſooner he ſquandered his ſhare, and the more outrage he committed with it, the more conſiſtently would he appear with himſelf, as a barbarian and plunderer. It ſhould not therefore too haſtily be inferred, that we ſhould experience ſuch deſtructive conſequences, from the affluence which attends arts and commerce, as the ancients did, from that which followed their conqueſts. I dwell the more minutely upon this part of the ſubject, and exemplify it in many different ſhapes, becauſe there are many people who really apprehend that the liberties of this country muſt be ſwallowed up, if we adopt ſuch regulations as will make us a commercial, a wealthy, and a ſplendid nation. To deſtroy ſuch ſuſpicions, as far as they are groundleſs, not only relieves thoſe who feel from them painful and uſeleſs anxiety, but makes them better citizens and wiſer politicians. It cannot then be too ſtrongly urged upon all men, who take a part in public affairs, or who wiſh to diſcern the effect of public meaſures, to obtain a ſatisfactory ſolution of the following queſtion; *whether to encourage commerce, and the mechanical and liberal arts be a circumſtance, unfavorable or not in the long run, to the freedom and happineſs of a community?* There is a certain point beyond which, it is ſaid, wealth and refinement cannot be carried without vitiating the perſonal qualities of men, and rendering them unfit agents to manage and retain the bleſſings of civil liberty. In what light ſuch an opinion ſhould be conſidered, ſhall be made the ſubject of another eſſay.

(To be continued.)

PASTIME OF VENUS:

Or, THE KISS.

INTENT to frame some new design of bliss,
The wanton *Cyprian Queen* compos'd a KISS:
An ample portion of *Ambrosial Juice*
With mystic skill she temper'd first for use;
This done, her infant work was well bedew'd
With choicest *Nectar*; and o'er all she strew'd
Part of that *Honey*, which sly *Cupid* stole
Much to his cost, and blended with the whole.
Then, that soft scent which from the *Vi'let* flows
She mixt with spoils of many a vernal *Rose*;
Each gentle *Blandishment* in love we find,
Each graceful winning *Gesture* next she join'd;
And all those *Joys* that in her Zone abound
Made up the KISS, and the rich labour crown'd:
Consid'ring now what beauteous Nymph might prove
Worthy the Gift, and worthy of her love;
She fixt on *Chloe*, as her favourite Maid;
To whom the Goddess sweetly-smiling said:
"Take this *my Fair* to perfect ev'ry Grace,
"And on thy Lips the FRAGRANT BLESSING place."

[MR. FENNO,

HAVING seen an exceeding bad translation of the enclosed Address, of the Americans at Paris, to the National Assembly, make its appearance in several newspapers, I have sent you an original copy, to publish in your extensively circulating paper either in French or English, or both languages if you please, with views of doing justice to the subscribers of the Address. AMERICANUS.]

Boston, 15 Nov. 1790.

ADRESSE

Des Citoyens des Etats-unis de l'Amérique, prononcée devant l'Assemblée nationale, par M. WILLIAM HARWOOD VERNON, dans la séance de Samedi au soir, le 10 Juillet 1790.

MESSIEURS,

FRappés d'admiration, à la vue du dévelopement & de l'extention de leurs propres principes dans cet heureux pays, les citoyens des états unis de l'Amérique qui se trouvent à Paris, sollicitent ardemment la faveur d'approcher du saint autel de la liberté, & de témoigner à l'assemblée nationale cette vive reconnoissance & ce profond respect que méritent les pères d'un grand peuple, & les bienfaiteurs du genre humain. L'étoile d'occident qui, des bords éloignés répandoit son éclat, réunit ses rayons à ceux du soleil glorieux qui, "verse des torrens de lumière" sur l'empire françois, pour éclairer enfin l'univers.

La force de la vérité est irrésistible, & la célérité de ses progrès est au-dessus de tout calculation. Nous avonscru,& nous le souhaitions sincérement, que les bienfaits de la liberté seroient un jour appréciés; que les nations sortiroient de leur léthargie, & réclameroient les droits de l'homme avec une voix que les hommes ne pourroient pas étouffer; nous avons cru que le luxe & la passion de dominer perdroient leurs charmes illusoires: que ces chefs, ces rois, ces dieux de la terre renonceroient aux distinctions idolâtres qu'on leur prodiguoit, pour se confondre avec leurs concitoyens & se réjouir de leur bonheur; nous avons cru que la region se dépouilleroit de ses terreurs empruntées, & qu'elle rejetteroit les armes meurtrières de l'intolérance & du fanatisme, pour prendre le sceptre de la paix. Ces événemens s'accellèrent aujourd'hui d'une manière étonnante, & nous éprouvons une joie indicible, & jusqu'à présent inconnue, de nous trouver devant cette vénérable assemblée de héros de l'humanité, qui, avec tant de succès, ont combattu dans le champ de la vérité & de la vertu.

Puissent les douces émotions d'une conscience satisfaite & les bénédictions d'un peuple heureux & reconnoissant être le prix de vos généreux efforts! Puisse le roi patriote, qui a si noblement sacrifié avec vous sur l'autel de la patrie, en partager amplement le fruit! Le monarque, qui, en commençant sa carrière a répandu ses bienfaits sur des régions éloignées, étoit bien digne d'échanger l'éclat séduisant du pouvoir arbitraire contre l'amour & la gratitude de ses concitoyens. Dans la France régénérée l'on peut bien l'appeller le *premier rois des Français*, mais dans le langage de l'univers il sera *le premier roi des hommes*.

Nous n'avons plus qu'un vœu à former; c'est que vous vouliez bien, messieurs, nous accorder l'honneur d'assister à l'auguste cérémonie qui doit assurer pour toujours le bonheur de la France.—Lorsque les François combattoient & versoient leur sang avec nous, sous l'étendard de la liberté, ils nous apprirent à les aimer; aujourd'hui que l'établissement des mêmes principes nous rapproche d'avantage & resserre nos liens, nous ne trouvons plus dans nos cœurs que les doux sentimens de frères & de concitoyens. C'est au pied de ce même autel, où les représentans & les soldats citoyens d'un vaste and puissant empire, prononceront le serment de fidélité à la nation, à la loi, & au roi, que nous jurerons une amitié éternelle aux Français, oui, à tous les Français fidèles aux principes que vous avez consacrés, car, comme vous, messieurs, nous chérissons la liberté, comme vous, nous aimons la paix.

JOEL BARLOW,
SAMUEL BLACKDEN,
PAUL JONES,
JAMES SWAN,
THOMAS APPLETON,
BENJAMIN JARVIS
GEORGE HOWELL
CONTÉE,
ANDERSON,
HARRISON,
J. LEWIS,
GEORGE WASHINGTON GREENE,
WILLIAM HARWOOD VERNON.

LONDON, Sept. 21.

THE learned HUGO GROTIUS remarks, that however kingdoms or states may be divided by particular boundaries, the sea should be open for the fishing of all nations, as no limit can be fixed to any part of the ocean; and tho it may wash any shore or coast whatever, no dominion should therefore be claimed to the great liquid element, or to its finny inhabitants. Tho this principle may not be acknowledged by Great-Britain, yet the Dutch are suffered to fish off the isles and coasts of Scotland, without impediment or interruption—The Spaniards would, however, endeavour to exclude the English from fishing off the coasts of South America, or even those of Patagonia, which approximate to the Straits of Magellan; a tract of territory they never yet possessed, and only build their idle hypothesis on the arrogant supposition, that the whole South Sea or Southern Atlantic belongs to Spain, because possessed of the empires of Mexico and Peru.

A first rate farmer who resides at a small village near Lowth, one rainy day last week, was obliged to attend his grounds, and coming home ringing wet, stripped himself and hung his cloaths in the yard to dry, [the weather afterwards proved fine] but at the same time neglected to take his purse out of one of his pockets. In a short time, however, the honest clodhopper recollected, he did not intend to hang *forty odd guineas* out to dry, therefore, with eagle's wings, he flew to the yard, but alas! the purse was gone—After some deliberation on what steps he should then take, it readily occurred to his memory to have seen a tame Mag-pye, which he kept, exceedingly busy with his breeches, and knowing that it frequently visited a neighbouring church, immediately went in search of it; when lo! to his great surprise and satisfaction, he found his purse and its contents safely deposited on the top of the spire!

There are now not less than 300,000 children educated at Sunday schools in this kingdom; a tenth of whom, were it not for so salutary a means, might remain in total ignorance of every thing but the vicious, idle practices of the world. If it is true that education forms the human mind, instead of expensive expeditions to Botany-Bay, in future, let us expend the same money in encouraging a moral education, in the poorer class of youth, and criminals, in time, will become unknown amongst us.

In such a sudden and rapid transition from a state of slavery to that of a free people, as has been experienced in France, that some circumstances should have occured which we do not approve; that there should have been some excesses to deplore; some regulations to reverse; some mistakes, which more mature consideration and further experience may, and probably will, correct—is not at all surprising. The wonder is, that, in a revolution of such immense extent and magnitude, there should be so little to blame, and so much to praise. The defects are few and insignificant, Like the spots on the sun, they are lost in the general splendour and brightness of the whole. The merits are numerous and important. In many of their preceedings, and more especially on the subject of religious liberty, the French National Assembly have set an example of wisdom and liberality to the British Parliament. Our countrymen, we hope, will not suffer themselves to be loutdone in the general strife to extend the freedom and promote the happiness of mankind—the only strife and competition worthy of two great and enlightened nations.

PARIS, August 29.

It appears from M. de Montesquieu's report on the different parts of the public debt, that the interest on the funded debt amounts to 167,700,000 livres, and that the whole of the unfunded debt, independent of the 400,000,000 assignats emounts to 1,902,540,000 livres. The total mass of interest of the funded and unfunded debt, amounts to 281,000.000, which makes it necessary that the approaching taxes should produce 521,000,000.

M. de Montesquieu also observed that the national effects are estimated at between two and three thousand millions, from, which must be deducted 400,000,000, appropriated to the assignats actually in circulation. To avoid exaggeration, the committee of the finances supposed that the surplus of the national effects did not exceed the capital of the unfunded debt. Reasoning from this hypothesis, by employing these effects in the extinction of the public debt, it is demonstrated that 474,000,000, raised by taxes, will be sufficient to defray all expences of every nature.

He proposed, that for the security of the unfunded debt, the newly acquired national effects should alone be applied. But the question remained undecided, whether the equivalent to be given should be new assignats, or in simple acknowledgments. This is the great problem, which remains to be determined, and which the committee of finances were content to propose to the Assembly, without venturing upon it themselves.

M. de Mirabeau affirmed that a new emission of assignats could alone preserve and consolidate the existence of the constitution. He then proposed, 1. To discharge the whole of the unfunded debt—by assignats bearing no interest. 2. To put up to sale immediately, the whole of the national domains; and that these sales by auction should take place in all the districts of the kingdom. 3. To receive the assignats in payment, to the exclusion of money, and all other paper. 4. To burn the assignats as they shall come in. 5. To order the committee of finances to present the plan of a decree, to give effect to their system as soon as possible.

His speech was ordered to be printed,—a memorial from the first minister of France, was then read, addressed to the Assembly. In this letter M. Necker warmly combats the proposal for a new emission of assignats to the amount of near two thousand; from this emission, said the minister, the greatest disorder will result, from its destroying the due balance between paper and specie.

The sale of the national property ordered on the 6th of August; has been effected; a further sale is to take place in the beginning of September to the amount of 1,541,745 livres.

The business of coining brass money was again brought before the Assembly. They were informed that a M. Pasquier had discovered a method to render the metal of bells ductile and malleable, and that there is in France more than two millions of that metal, which could not fail to be highly useful on the present occasion.

SEPTEMBER 12.

A petition was yesterday presented to the National Assembly by a committee from the National Guard at Versailles, through M. Berthier, their commandant, respecting the funeral honors due to those who fell in quelling the insurrection at Nanci. Part of this memorial runs as follows: "They have now sealed with their blood the oath which they took but a few days before, to devote their lives to the nation, to the support of the law, and to the safety of their King!

To have fought and to have died by their side would have been our most sacred duty—to pay their memory the last tribute of worth, is now the most anxious desire of our hearts—and it is our most ardent wish to raise to them a monument worthy of themselves and deeply expressive of our esteem!

Let a Pyramid, simple in its structure, but of a majestic appearance, be erected to them at one of the gates of Nanci.

Upon this Pyramid let there be an inscription to this effect—*Here rest the men who died for their country, soldiers as well as citizens—! The second month of the second year of the liberties of France.*

Such gentlemen, is the monument we claim for those generous Frenchmen, whom a sense of their duty swayed upon this occasion. Their wives, their children, their parents, of whom they were the happiness and the stay, are witnesses to the tears we now shed upon their ashes—Be it ours by this last act of attention to perpetuate the remembrance of their glory."

Beside the 45 sail of the line, ordered by the National Assembly, there are general orders sent to all the sea ports for an augmentation. In the port of L'Orient they are to furnish four additional ships of the line, and one frigate. besides one ship of the line now on the stocks.

Late accounts from Turkey by way of Venice say, that as an acknowledgment for the powerful diversion made by the King of Sweden in their favour, in the war with Russia, the Porte has ordered the public thanks, to be given to the Swedish Embassador; and the Kaimacan, in the name of the grand Seignor, has made him a present, in gold coin, to the value of thirty thousand dollars and an elegant horse with a most superb suit of furniture.—The Swedish interpreter has also received 10,000 dollars—and that the news of the peace between Austria and Sweden had given the greatest satisfaction at Constantinople.

SHEPHERD'S-TOWN, *(Maryland)* Nov. 5.

The late visit of our illustrious President, encourages a hope that the *permanent seat* of the Federal Government will be fixed opposite to this town, on the *Maryland* shore, and that one half of the ten miles square will be located in *Virginia*. This event, will, however, depend much on donations from the inhabitants, to defray the expences of the Public Buildings, especially as the President himself has informed us, large offers have been made at other places on the Patowmac.

When we take into our view the amazing advantages held up to the owners of *lands* and other permanent property in this valley, the very sudden and unexpected increase in its value, we flatter ourselves that generous subscriptions will be offered; especially as only a small part will be shortly wanted. Our friends in Maryland are making every possible exertion to effect this important purpose; and as the inhabitants in the Virginia part of this valley will be equally benefited, they request our cordial concurrence and aid,

Subscriptions are taken in Shepherd's-Town, by Col. John Morrow, John Keasley, *Esq. Capt.* Charles Morrow, *and* Abraham Shepherd, *Esq. In Martinburg, by Mr.* Joseph Riddel. *In Charlestown by Mr.* William Cooke, *and Mr.* John Henderson. *On Shenandoah river, by Mr.* Humphrey Keyes. *In Bulskin settlement by Mr.* John Marke.

Very liberal subscriptions have, within a few days past, been obtained in this town and its vicinity, to be appropriated towards erecting the Federal Buildings, provided the seat of government be located so as to include *Shepherd's-Town* within the district.

GEORGETOWN, Nov. 20.

We hear from Alexandria, that *The President* of the United States, dined, on Wednesday last, at Mr. Wise's tavern, with a numerous and respectable company.

BALTIMORE, Nov. 23.

Wednesday last arrived here the brig Friendship, William Marshall, master, from Jamaica: On the 14th of October last, in lat. 24. 30, and long. 85. west from London, they fell in with the Spanish brigantine Nostra Senora de la Conception, Don Domingo Bretos, master, from Truxillo, bound to the island of Trinidad, in great distress. Capt. Marshall, at the request of the master of the Conception, sent his boat on board, and took the master and crew out of her.

The sloop Smithfield, Capt. Gardner, is arrived at Bermuda-hundred from Rhode-Island.

From the Maryland Journal.

——"While, in Philadelphia, we admire the progress of manufactures and naval architecture—it is observed that one matter of importance has escaped the attention of that sagacious people—that is the fishery.

"Where so many mercantile gentlemen, of great capitals, conversant in shipping, and well acquainted with the various branches of commerce live together, they might easily associate and establish a fishing company, without interfering with their other plans of commerce—it would contribute to the encouragement of the shipbuilder and manufacturer—If well conducted, it would enrich individuals, and strengthen the marine of the nation.

"There was such a company in New-York before the revolution.—It continued only two years on account of the times; and in that short period they doubled their capital."

NEWPORT, November 11.

The following is communicated to us by Capt. CLARK, who arrived yesterday from Martinique:—

Events which happened in the town of St. Pierre, Martinique, since the 23d Sept. the day of the arrival of the brig South-Carolina, Capt. *Clark*, from Rhode-Island; the same day the embargo took place on all foreign vessels—this was done by the Council of the town of St. Pierre; the embargo was kept on until the 5th of this month: in the mean while, and still continues, dissentions even to a civil war, on both sides, and the town of St. Pieree threatened with ruin. The people are divided into two parties, the General Damas, the planters, the free mulattoes and negroes, and slaves all armed; those parties are headed by an Assembly Colonial, chosen from the planters, the whole are called Aristocrats: the other party are the people of St. Pierre, and some in Fort Royal; the commerce of St. Pierre forbids any provisions to pass the other side; the general and his army are encamped on a hill called Gros morne, where they are well fortified: the town of St. Pierre were obliged to send to Guadaloupe, St. Lucie, and Marigalante, for a supply of troops, which were granted: this town we hope is sufficiently guarded and fortified against the enemy, and we expect to remain in this manner of defence until the constitution comes out from the National Assembly of France. In this critical situation we remain—not the least commerce is carried on on either side. The General and the Assembly Colonial have published a decree, by which all Americans and others are permitted to go into any port in the island with every kind of provisions, and to carry away any produce they please in return. The town of St. Pierre and Fort Royal, on their part, have armed some small vessels to cruise round the island, in order to prevent any such vessels going into any port but this. A battle was fought between the two parties on the 25th ult. The patriot party marched out of Fort Royal in number about 1200, the one half troops the other citizens, they were very badly provided for such an attack, having neither guides, nor in proper order, they marched towards Lamentine, in two columns, the one commanded by Col. *de Chabrolle*, and the other by Mr. *Cocquil des Gomiere*, the column commanded by the Dernier had four field pieces, this column met with every obstacle almost possible to mention, such as the roads cut, large trees laid across, and in passing through a swamp were attacked by a large body in ambush, not one to be seen: the battle did not last long, for the two commanders perceiving they were, or should be betrayed, ordered a retreat, which they did, but in much disorder, leaving their four field pieces, some ammunition, and a day's provision; the loss of the Aristocratic army is 247 coloured and 4 white men, all killed; and on the Patriots side 25, and 28 taken prisoners; since which each are on the defensive: the number of the Aristocratic army at the time of battle was 3000. There are many planters known to be patriots, these suffer greatly by frequent excursions of negroes and mulattoes, who are continually going about in the country plundering and committing horrid acts, and it is unfortunate for them that the Patriot army cannot give them any assistance, being obliged to keep in and about St. Pierre and Fort Royal, who are also in possession of Fort Bourbon and Fort Louis, the two Forts in that place, which take a great number of men to guard. At this time are come fron Guadaloupe twenty-two deputies, in order to offer a mediation between the two parties, but little expectation of peace appears at this day, the 12th of October.

BOSTON, *Nov.* 12.

It is a remarkable fact, in favor of the utility of moral character, in human affairs, that the three perſonages who appear to conduct or ſuſtain, by their influence and abilities, the government of three great nations, are all men of fair private character. It is hardly neceſſary to mention that theſe three men are WASHINGTON, in the United States—FAYETTE in France—and PITT, in Great-Britain.—

Tho ſhallow politicians ſtill may brawl,
That public character is all in all,
'Tis falſe as gameſter's oaths—or air—or hell!
Who errs in private never can rule well.

Accounts from Rome, ſtate, that the noted Caglioſtro is perfectly recovered of his late indiſpoſition—and that on a report being ſpread that he was to be enlarged, the government immediately planted double guards upon him to prevent the poſſibility of his eſcape.

To the ſplendid LUMINARIES of the *Temple of Fame*, in the elder world, whoſe radiance hath lately been extinguiſhed—we can, with regret, add THREE in the new world, whoſe emanations were not leſs refulgent. With a FRANKLIN, who in *philoſophy*, *ſcience* and *legiſlation*, ſhone with peculiar ſplendor, one *lamp* went out. With a LIVINGSTON, whoſe *philoſophic*, *ſcientific*, and *legiſlative* knowledge rendered him alſo a blaze of light, the ſecond *lamp* expired—and we have recently ſeen the extinction of the third *lamp*, in the death of a BOWDOIN, who ſhone equally reſplendent with the others, in *philoſophy*, in *ſcience*, and in *legiſlation*. But are we without conſolation? No—They ſhall yet ſhine with undiminiſhed luſtre in the temples of immortality!

NEW-YORK, November 22.

Some years ago; (in the time of the late war) a citizen of Philadelphia, well known for his ſkill in mechanics as well as in nautical matters, ſet up a ſhip at Kenſington near Philadelphia upon three keels. Some ſubſequent occurrences, however, prevented the completion of the deſign; old prejudices got the better of right reaſon; and the perſon who afterwards purchaſed the frame had two of the keels taken out, and the middle one left, as uſual. Projectors and men of curioſity, were much diſappointed at the defeat of the ſcheme, as it was expected a veſſel upon this plan, would have had unſpeakably ſuperior advantages in *holding wind*, over the common models. The idea it ſeems, has ſince been taken up in England, and laſt year a ſhip was built in that country, called the Experiment, with two keels; and has been found more than to anſwer the expected purpoſe. "I ſailed (ſays the Captain, in a letter to his owner) from Burnt-Iſland, June 10th, with the wind at Weſt, which on Sunday ſhifted to the North, blowing exceſſive hard, with a great running ſea—hauled up the ſhip cloſe by the wind—carried a deal of ſail on her to keep her to windward—ſhe was then going five or ſix miles per hour, and I found, by my obſervations, that ſhe had made good the courſe, that was ſteered, notwithſtanding the great ſea that was on her broadſide. I made the Naze of Norway the 14th, and arrived at Gottenburgh the 16th She carries a very weatherly helm."

Theſe keels, it is ſaid, are ſo faſhioned as (tho' the ſhip heels ever ſo much) always to keep a perpendicular poſition to the horizontal line of the Sea, the ſame as when ſhe ſtands upright; ſo that it is evident they muſt take ſuch a powerful hold of the water under the ſhip, as to admit of ſcarcely any leeway; and where there is no leeway a veſſel, from the natural preſſure to lee-ward, when cloſe hauled, muſt of conſequence make the greater headway. Beſides other advantages attendant upon a ſhip's making no lee-way, the moſt conſiderable are 1ſt. the being able by this means to keep an exact reckoning, which can never be done, in veſſels of a contrary deſcription, and 2dly, the excellent quality of clawing off lee-ſhores in hard gales; for want of which in the common ſtructure of veſſels, many lives and cargoes are loſt every year.

Philadelphia, Nov. 27.

A paragraphiſt in the General Advertiſer of Thurſday laſt, reprobates in very forcible terms, the mode of voting *viva voce*, in popular elections, as practiſed in ſome of the ſtates. This abuſe, ſays he, ſtrikes at the very root of all good and free government—poiſons the very ſource from which it flows.

It is impoſſible in this manner of voting, that elections ſhould be free.—A candidate that has great wealth and influence, on whom the livelihood of many may depend, will inevitably awe all his dependants to ſupport him. Men who owe to him their employment, or have received his bribes, dare not openly oppoſe him. Even a man's friends, thoſe who are not dependant upon him, but are only in habits of intimacy, cannot well refuſe to ſupport him, leſt this ſhould interrupt that intercourſe that ſubſiſts between the families. Whenever too the popular current runs violently in any particular direction. it is hardly ſafe to bear up againſt it. Many who think differently from the great body of the people, will be reluctantly hurried down the general ſtream. Many, rather than come forward openly to avow their ſentiments, will conſent to wave their privilege of voting.

We ſee ſometimes, as in Baltimore very lately, that out of ſeveral thouſand votes, all, except two or three, are in favor of the ſame perſons; tho the very connections and intimate friends of the oppoſite candidates, muſt have amounted to a conſiderable number—and all thoſe who favored their intereſt, to many hundreds.

This method of voting will inevitably introduce corruption and intrigue into the elections. This is undoubtedly one cauſe of the corruption of elections in Great-Britain; and in ſome parts of the United States, where this method is adopted, the elections reſemble thoſe of England. They are little better than an auction, where the poſt is ſet up to public ſale, and is ſtruck off to the higheſt bidder.

The difference between the ſtates that make uſe of theſe two methods, is very ſtriking, and places their true influence in the ſtrongeſt light—In thoſe ſtates where the mode of voting is by ballot, it would be exceedingly indelicate, and indeed would be conſidered as great preſumption and effrontery for a man to come forward and hold himſelf up to the public as qualified for the higher poſts of the government, and endeavor to procure intereſt. In ſome parts of the United States, where they vote *viva voce*, men, inſtead of being brought forward by the voice of their country, or their friends, publicly advertiſe themſelves, openly ſolicit intereſt, and ride about the country to beg and buy all the votes they can collect. And to cloſe this indecent ſcene, the candidates while the election is going on, are frequently ſeated upon the huſtings, expoſed to public view, to tamper with every elector that comes to vote.

Wealth, where elections are free, if not attended with ſome degree of ability, is no recommendation to a candidate; but where the *viva voce* method is adopted, it is the great, ſometimes the only requiſite,

To theſe obſervations a correſpondent adds, that the practice of keeping an election open for a number of days, and ſometimes weeks together, is attended with many objections; the mode is vexatious, and unneceſſarily expenſive to the people. Opens the door to intrigue and cabals, and is ſubverſive of freedom.

In many of the ſtates the election is held on the ſame day throughout the government.

The accounts of French affairs which have been recently laid before the public, are ſo vague, ſo extravagant, and contradictory, that it is very difficult to form any definite ideas of their real ſituation. The Engliſh ſtatements of the exceſſes which may have taken place, from former examples, we may ſuppoſe are exaggerated. On the other hand, the enthuſiaſtic admirers of the proceedings of the National Aſſembly, as is very natural, may think too lightly of the uneaſineſſes which prevail, and may attempt to diminiſh the real magnitude of the outrages committed in the provinces. The friends of the French Revolution, and ſuch is every patriot American, muſt however feel alarmed for the cloud which is impending at the preſent moment, in the form of paper money.

If the propoſed emiſſion of Aſſignats, or Bank Notes, could be turned, as by a ſtroke of magic, into ſolid coin, and diffuſed over the faee of the empire, it would depreciate the value of the precious metals in ſuch manner, as nearly to deſtroy their uſe as a medium; but ſuch a flood of paper money, *we* know, by ſad experience, muſt create confuſion, and every evil work.

The late tragical event at Nanci, in France, is ſo variouſly repreſented, that one cannot determine where the blame ought to be fixed.

There is undoubtedly a diſpoſition very apparent to criminate the condoct of M. de BOUILLE, as harboring unfriendly deſigns reſpecting the revolution. On the other hand it appears probable, that ere this, funeral honors have been decreed to the memory of thoſe, of his little army, who fell in the attack at Nanci. On the whole, the information derived thro the medium of the proceedings of the National Aſſembly, is alone to be depended on; for it may be preſumed, that as the enemies of the Revolution are at this time very alert, nine out of ten of the "letters from Paris," in the Engliſh papers, are mere fabrications, without any foundation in truth.

While the patriot and the citizen of the world cannot but admire, as moral theoriſts, the many humane and ſublime deciſions of the National Aſſembly of France on the Rights of Man, there is a ſolemn pauſe impoſed on their admiration in contemplating the probable iſſue of many of their reſolutions, through the natural verſatility, and obſtinacy of mankind. The progreſs of light and truth is gradual, where prejudice does not impede their operation; but habits and falſe principles often prove an inſuperable barrier to their force and influence, and always require time to be removed, previous to the admiſſion of juſt and reaſonable conceptions.

To this ſtate of things may perhaps be principally attributed the embarraſſments which check in any meaſure, the completion of the French revolution: Even in America, it required a number of years to prepare the public mind for its emancipation from the power of Britain.

While the government of the United States is adminiſtred on its true principles, by men who merit and poſſeſs the confidence of the people, as at preſent, every attempt to interrupt its operations, or weaken the general confidence in our civil rulers, whether by deſigning demagogues, ſticklers for independent State Sovereignty, or intereſted aſſociations of individuals muſt prove abortive—for tho particular perſons, in a corner of the Union, may raiſe a clamor, declaim againſt public meaſures, and employ the preſs as the medium of inflammatory addreſſes—yet there is a cool judgement, a laudable ſpirit of deliberative candor, which diſtinguiſhes the people of the United States, and leads them impartially to weigh, and leiſurely to decide, upon every ſubject ſubmitted to public inveſtigation: They alſo fully realize, that the expence of ſupporting government is a uſeleſs burthen, if an appeal muſt be made in the firſt inſtance to the whole body of the people in all caſes of real or ſuppoſed grievance. The conſtitution is expreſs in this point, and it is certainly more decent, as well as more conſonant to the principles of freedom, to bring every public injury to that tribunal which is competent to doing all poſſible juſtice—the legiſlature of the union.

Internal reſources conſtitute the ſinews of Independence: The United States are making ſuch rapid progreſs in manufactures and agriculture, that in a few years, they will be able not only to ſupply their own demands, but to furniſh a large exceſs of a variety of articles for exportation.—Our coaſting-trade is already ſupplied with ſeveral ſpecies of goods, which are vended principally in the ſouthern States, upon terms, that have eſſentially diminiſhed the importation of ſimilar fabricks from Great-Britain—the principal article now referred to, is coarſe linen-cloths: The encouragement for the raiſing of *hemp* is ſo great, that it is not perhaps being too ſanguine to ſay, that the time is not very remote, when foreign cordage will ceaſe to be imported: *Iron* and *Duck* are manufactured in great quantities, and in the higheſt perfection.

The proſpect that is before us in reſpect to the *carrying-trade*, is highly flattering: The difficulties and prejudices which have heretofore exiſted, are daily ſubſiding and vaniſhing: Our reputation as ſhip-builders is eſtabliſhed—to this the natural advantages we poſſeſs, that enable us to build and victual cheaper than any other country, muſt very ſoon give a decided preference to American bottoms, in all parts of the world: Already have we ſeen ſhips of great burthen ſent out of our ports—the work of our own countrymen, ſo completely, that there was ſcarcely an imported article in their compoſition, from the keel, to the cap on maintop-gallant-maſt-head.

MARRIED]—At New-York, by the Rev. Dr. *Rodgers* Mr. PROSPER WETMORE, to Miſs CATHERINE McEUEN.

LATEST ARRIVALS AT THIS PORT.

Shooner Sally, Florance, St. Thomas,
——— Penelope, Morgan, Tobago,
——— Beſs, Spencer, Grenada.

PRICE CURRENT.——PUBLIC SECURITIES.

FUNDED DEBT.		
6 pr. Cents	——14ſ. pr. £.	or 70 pr. cent.
3 pr. Cents	7ſ4——7ſ5.	or 37 do.
Defered 6 pr. Cents	6ſ3.	33 do.
UNFUNDED DEBT.		
Final Settl. and other Certificates	12ſ6—12ſ8.	63½ do.
Indents	7ſ4——7ſ5.	37 do.
State debts	8ſ4.——8ſ5.	42 do.

Poſtſcript.

BY THE MAIL ARRIVED LAST EVENING.

PHILADELPHIA, Nov. 27.

Arrived at Boſton the 17th inſt. the Ship Diſpatch. *Capt.* D. LORING *in 49 days from Liverpool, who brought papers to the 27th of Sept. from which the following intelligence has been extracted.*

LONDON, September 25.

A COUNCIL was held yeſterday at the Duke of Leed's office, Whitehall, when Capt. *Mac Donald*, a gentleman his paſſenger, and his ſervant, were examined reſpecting the treatment from the Spaniſh commodore. This extraordinary circumſtance was diſcuſſed with the utmoſt candour and preciſion.

Immediately after their examination, expreſſes were ſent to collect every one of the hands who had been in the Trelawney Planter, to be brought to town, for the purpoſe of having them examined.

Orders have been ſent to the different men of war to ſend to town any of the hands who were preſſed, and are on board of our navy.

The Council, after cloſing their enquiry, immediately appointed a Charge des Affaires to the Court of Copenhagen, who was with uncommon anxiety, directed to take his departure laſt night, without permitting him to adjuſt any domeſtic concerns.

By private letters from Paris, we learn, that M. NECKER was to ſet off for Switzerland on Saturday laſt.

A report prevails, that on Wedneſday laſt it was publickly announced at Paris, that the Duke of ORLEANS had declared in favor of the French King,

On the ſame evening the people of Paris, to the number of 40,000, collected at the gates of the National Aſſembly, and being headed (as was ſuppoſed) by the Duke of ORLEANS, attempted to force an entrance, and perſiſted with all the violence imaginable for ſeveral hours.

At length, about the hour of three o'clock on Thurſday morning, they were all diſperſed by the National Guards, and we have not heard of any material miſchief having happened. But the whole city was in the greateſt fermentation when theſe accounts came away. *(Doubtful.)*

RUMORS.

That the late Reſolutions of the Houſe of Delegates in Virginia on the Aſſumption, are regretted by the majority that paſſed them.

That the Land Tax of that State will probably be repealed in the preſent ſeſſion of their Aſſembly, notwithſtanding the late reſolutions againſt the aſſumption.

Alſo that the Aſſembly of North-Carolina are moving in the buſineſs of Aſſumption.

IMPERIAL, HYSON, SOUCHONG, and BOHEA
TEAS;
REFINED SUGARS, COFFEE, and SPICES, &c.
Of the firſt Quality—by Retail,
No. 17,
Third-Street, between Cheſnut and Market-Streets.

Diſcourſes on Davila.

No. XXIII.—CONTINUED.

Utrumque regem, ſua multitudo contalutaverat.

THIS aſſembly was holden at Paris, in the beginning of the year 1562. The Queen, according to her ordinary maxims, employed herſelf in holding the balance between the two parties, and to hinder one from prevailing over the other, for fear ſhe ſhould be the victim of the ſtrongeſt. The greateſt part of the magiſtrates concurred in her views; ſome perſuaded that it was impoſſible to reſtrain ſo great a multitude, animated by a furious zeal for religion, and others ſeeing with regret ſo much blood ſhed to no good purpoſe. They prepared that famous Edict of January, which granted to the Hugonots, the liberty of conſcience, and the liberty of holding their aſſemblies and preaching their ſermons, upon condition that they ſhould meet without arms, without the cities, in the fields, and in preſence of the judges of the places. The parliaments and other tribunals oppoſed, at firſt, the execution of this Edict; but it was finally regiſtered, upon repeated letters of juſſion, (ſealed commands to do a thing which they had refuſed to do) of the King and council. This was a thunderbolt to the chiefs of the Catholic party. To bring on a criſis, to force all the Catholics to join them, and to hinder the execution of the Edict, the Duke of *Guiſe*, the Conſtable, all the Cardinals, except de *Tournon*, who was lately dead, the Marſhals *de Briſſac* and *Saint Andre* quitted the court, to oppoſe themſelves with all their forces to the Calviniſtical party. So near was liberty of conſcience at that time, to a compleat and final eſtabliſhment in France, that nothing but this violent meaſure could have prevented it; even this retreat of all the Catholics would not have ſucceeded, without another artifice. They ſufficiently foreſaw, that as long as the good intelligence ſubſiſted between the Queen-mother and the King of Navarre, they ſhould have no power to intermeddle in the government of the kingdom, and that all their efforts would be in vain: they propoſed therefore to break it. Convinced that the Queen-mother would never change her plan or her conduct, at leaſt until the majority of her ſon; they thought it would be more eaſy to gain upon the underſtanding of the king of Navarre. Their receſs enabled them to conduct with more ſecrecy this negociation, which required time and addreſs. *D'Eſt*, legate of the Pope, and *Manriquez* ambaſſador of Spain, let into the ſecret and entruſted with the conduct of it, eaſily commenced the conferences, by the interpoſition of the confidents of the King of Navarre. This weak Prince, had, or pretended to have, no longer the ſame inclination for the Hugonots, ſince the colloquy at Poiſſy, where he had remarked their variations upon the conteſted points of faith, and not having found in *Theodore Beza*, nor in *Peter Martyr*, the ſame confidence as he thought, as they affected when they dogmatized without contradictors, he had conſulted Doctor *Baudouin*, equally verſed in ſcriptures and in controverſy. This theologian had decided the King of Navarre, to re unite himſelf to the faith of the church, and to adopt neither the profeſſion of faith of the Swiſs Proteſtants, nor the confeſſion of Augſbourg. His acquieſcence in the Edict of January was leſs from any inclination to the Hugonots, than from an opinion the conſciences ought not to be reſtrained, and that toleration was an infallible means of extinguiſhing the troubles of the kingdom. As ſoon as his confidents, already diſpoſed to ſerve the Catholic party, had informed the legate and ambaſſador, that he was in this temper, theſe laſt failed not to take advantage of it, to open the negotiation. In order to unite to motives of conſcience, perſonal advantages and temporal intereſts, they propoſed to him to divorce his Queen Jane, with a diſpenſation from the Pope, becauſe ſhe was an Heretic, and to marry Mary, Queen of Scots, the niece of the *Guiſes*, and widow of Francis IId, a Princeſs who united to the charms of youth and beauty, the actual poſſeſſion of a great kingdom. The King of Navarre, attached to his children, rejected firmly this propoſition. They then brought upon the carpet, once more, the exchange of Sardinia, ſo often propoſed in vain. This was the delicate point, which touched him the moſt ſenſibly. His hopes indeed, were not very ſtrong; but this negotiation not having been wholly broken off, *Manriquez*, the Spaniſh ambaſſador, by his ordinary artifice, renewed it with ſo much apparent ſeriouſneſs, as to re-animate the deſires and the confidence of the King of Navarre. Not content with giving him the ſtrongeſt aſſurances of the good diſpoſitions of the Catholic King, he proceeded ſo far as to treat of the means of exchange, and of the quality of the rents and ſervices, which the King of Navarre ſhould render the crown of Spain, as acknowledgments of its ſovereignty. They debated theſe clauſes and conditions as ſeriouſly, as if they were upon the point of ſigning the treaty. The character of the King of Navarre, and his inclination to embrace always the moſt honorable and plauſible meaſures, favored the deſigns of the Catholics. *(To be continued.)*

From WEBSTER'S DISSERTATIONS *on the* ENGLISH LANGUAGE.

OF MODERN CORRUPTIONS in the ENGLISH PRONUNCIATION.

(CONCLUDED.)

BUT whatever may be the practice in England or Ireland, there are few in America who have embraced it, as it is explained in Sheridan's Dictionary. In the middle and ſouthern States, there are are a few, and thoſe well bred people, who have gone far in attempting to imitate the faſhion of the day.* Yet the body of the people, even in theſe States, remain as unfaſhionable as ever; and the eaſtern States generally adhere to their ancient cuſtom of ſpeaking, however vulgar it may be thought by their neighbors.† Suppoſe cuſtom therefore to be the *jus et norma*, the rule of correct ſpeaking, and in this country, it is directly oppoſed to the plan now under conſideration.

As a nation, we have a very great intereſt in oppoſing the introduction of any plan of uniformity with the Britiſh language, even were the plan propoſed perfectly unexceptionable. This point will be afterwards diſcuſſed more particularly; but I would obſerve here, that the author who has the moſt admirers and imitators in this country, has been cenſured in London, where his character is highly eſteemed, and that too by men who are confeſſedly partial to his general plan. In the critical review of *Sheridan's* Dictionary, 1781, there are the following exceptions to his ſtandard.

"Nevertheleſs our author muſt not be ſurprized if, in a matter, in its nature ſo delicate and difficult, as that concerning which he treats, a doubt ſhould here and there ariſe, in the minds of the moſt candid critics, with regard to the propriety of his determinations. For inſtance, we would wiſh him to reconſider, whether in the words which begin with *ſuper*, ſuch as *ſuperſtition*, *ſuperſede*, he is right in directing them to be pronounced *ſhooper*. Whatever might be the caſe in Queen Ann's time, it doth not occur to us, that any one at preſent, above the lower ranks, ſpeaks theſe words with the ſound of *ſh*; or that a good reaſon can be given, for their being thus ſounded. Nay their being thus ſpoken is contrary to Mr. *Sheridan's* own rule; for he ſays that the letter *ſ* always preſerves its own proper ſound at the beginning of words."

Here we are informed by this gentleman's admirers, that, in ſome inſtances, he has impoſed upon the world, as the ſtandard of purity, a pronunciation which is not heard, except among the *lower ranks of people*, and directly oppoſed to his own rule. The reviewers might have extended their remarks to many other inſtances, in which he has deviated from general practice and from every rule of the language. Yet at the voice of this gentleman, many of the Americans are quitting their former practice, and running into errors with an eagerneſs bordering on infatuation.

Cuſtoms of the court and ſtage, it is confeſſed, rule without reſiſtance in monarchies. But what have we to do with the cuſtoms of a foreign nation? Detached as we are from all the world, is it not poſſible to circumſcribe the power of *cuſtom*, and lay it, in ſome degree, under the influence of propriety? We are ſenſible that in foreign courts, a man's reputation may depend on a genteel bow, and his fortune may be loſt by wearing an unfaſhionable coat. But have we advanced to that ſtage of corruption, that our higheſt ambition is to be as particular in faſhions as other nations? In matters merely indifferent, like modes of dreſs, ſome degree of conformity to local cuſtom is neceſſary;‡ but when this conformity requires a ſacrifice of any principle of propriety or moral rectitude, ſingularity becomes an honorable teſtimony of an independent mind. A man of a great ſoul would ſooner imitate the virtues of a cottage, than the vices of a court; and would deem it more honorable to gain one uſeful idea from the humble laborer, than to copy the vicious pronunciation of a ſplendid court, or become an adept in the licentious principles of a *Rocheſter* and a *Littleton*.

It will not be diſputed that *Sheridan* and *Scott* have very faithfully publiſhed the preſent pronunciation of the Engliſh court and theatre. But if we may conſult the rules of our language and conſider them as of any authority; if we may rely on the opinions of *Kenrick* and the reviewers; if we may credit the beſt informed people who have travelled in Great-Britain, this practice is modern and local, and conſidered, by the judicious and impartial, even of the Engliſh nation, as a groſs corruption of the pure pronunciation.

Such errors and innovations ſhould not be imitated, becauſe they are found in authors of reputation. The works of ſuch authors ſhould rather be conſidered as lights to prevent our falling upon the rocks of error. There is no more propriety in our imitating the practice of the Engliſh theatre, becauſe it is deſcribed by the celebrated *Sheridan*, than there is in introducing the manners of *Rocheſter* or the principles of *Bolingbroke*, becauſe theſe were eminent characters; or than there is in copying the vices of a *Shylock*, a *Lovelace*, or a *Richard* III. becauſe they are well deſcribed by the maſterly pens of *Shakeſpear* and *Richardſon*. So far as the correctneſs and propriety of ſpeech are conſidered as important, it is of as much conſequence to oppoſe the introduction of that practice in this country, as it is to reſiſt the corruption of morals, which ever attends the wealthy and luxurious ſtage of national refinements.

Had *Sheridan* adhered to his own rules and to the principle of analogy; had he given the world a conſiſtent ſcheme of pronunciation, which would not have had, for its unſtable baſis, the fickle practice of a changeable court, he would have done infinite ſervice to the language: Men of ſcience, who wiſh to preſerve the regular conſtruction of the language, would have rejoiced to find ſuch a reſpectable authority on the ſide of propriety; and the illiterate copiers of faſhion muſt have rejected faults in ſpeaking, which they could not defend.§

The corruption however has taken ſuch deep root in England, that there is little probability it will ever be eradicated. The practice muſt there prevail, and gradually change the whole ſtructure of the Latin derivatives. Such is the force of cuſtom, in a nation where all faſhionable people are drawn to a point, that the current of opinion is irreſiſtible; individuals muſt fall into the ſtream and be borne away by its violence; except perhaps a few philoſophers, whoſe fortitude may enable them to hold their ſtation, and whoſe ſenſe of propriety may remain, when their power of oppoſition has ceaſed.

But our detached ſituation, local and political, gives us the *power*, while pride, policy, and a regard for propriety and uniformity among ourſelves, ſhould inſpire us with a *diſpoſition*, to oppoſe innovations, which have not utility for their object.

We ſhall find it difficult to convince Engliſhmen that a corrupt taſte prevails in the Britiſh nation. Foreigners view the Americans with a degree of contempt; they laugh at our manners, pity our ignorance, and as far as example and deriſion can go, obtrude upon us the cuſtoms of their native countries. But in borrowing from other nations, we ſhould be exceedingly cautious to ſeparate their virtues from their vices; their uſeful improvements from their falſe refinements. Stile and taſte, in all nations, undergo the ſame revolutions, the ſame progreſs from purity to corruption, as manners and government; and in England the pronunciation of the language has ſhared the ſame fate. The Auguſtan era is paſt, and whether the nation perceive and acknowledge the truth or not, the world, as impartial ſpectators, obſerve and lament the declenſion of taſte and ſcience.

The nation can do little more than read the works and admire the beauties of the original authors, who have adorned the preceding ages. A few, ambitious of fame, or driven by neceſſity, croud their names into the catalogue of writers, by imitating ſome celebrated model, or by compiling from the productions of genius. Nothing marks more ſtrongly the declenſion of genius in England, than the multitude of plays, farces, novels and other catchpenny pieces, which ſwell the liſt of modern publications and that hoſt of compilers, who, in the rage for ſelecting beauties and abridging the labor of reading, diſfigure the works of the pureſt writers in the nation. *Cicero* did not waſte his talents in barely reading and ſelecting the beauties of *Demoſthenes*; and in the days of *Addiſon*, the beauties of *Milton*, *Locke* and *Shakeſpear* were to be found only in *their works*. But taſte is corrupted by luxury; utility is forgotten in pleaſure; genius is buried in diſſipation, or proſtituted to exalt and to damn contending factions, and to amuſe the idle debauchees that ſurround a licentious ſtage.‖

Theſe are the reaſons why we ſhould not adopt promiſcuouſly their taſte, their opinions, their manners. Cuſtoms, habits, and *language*, as well as government ſhould be national. America ſhould have her *own* diſtinct from all the world. Such is the policy of other nations, and ſuch muſt be *our* policy, before the States can be either independent or reſpectable. To copy foreign manners implicitly, is to reverſe the order of things, and begin our political exiſtence with the corruptions and vices which have marked the declining glories of other republics.

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* *There are many people, and perhaps the moſt of them in the capital towns, that have learnt a few common place words, ſuch as* forchin, nachur, virchue *and half a dozen others, which they repeat on all occaſions; but being ignorant of the extent of the practice, they are, in pronouncing moſt words, as vulgar as ever.*

† *It ſhould be remarked that the late Preſident of Pennſylvania, the Governor of New-Jerſey, and the Preſident of New-York college, who are diſtinguiſhed for erudition and accuracy, have not adopted the Engliſh pronunciation.*

‡ *Not between different nations, but in the ſame nation. The manners and faſhions of each nation ſhould ariſe out of their circumſtances, their age, their improvements in commerce and agriculture.*

§ Sheridan, *as an improver of the language, ſtands among the firſt writers of the Britiſh nation, and deſervedly. His lectures on elocution and on reading, his treatiſes on education, and for the moſt part his rhetorical grammar, are excellent and almoſt unexceptionable performances. In theſe, he encountered practice and prejudices, when they were found repugnant to obvious rules of propriety. But in this Dictionary he ſeems to have left his only defenſible ground,* propriety, *in purſuit of that phantom,* faſhion. *He deſerted his own principles, as the reviewers obſerve; and where he has done this, every rational man ſhould deſert his* ſtandard.

‖ *From this deſcription muſt be excepted ſome arts which have for their object, the pleaſures of ſenſe and imagination; as muſic and painting; and ſciences which depend on fixed principles, and not opinion, as mathematics and philoſophy. The former flouriſh in the laſt ſtages of national refinement, and the latter are always proceeding towards perfection by diſcoveries and experiment. Criticiſm alſo flouriſhes in Great-Britain: Men read and judge accurately, when original writers ceaſe to adorn the ſciences. Correct writers precede juſt critiſm.*

MASSACHUSETTS STATE LOTTERY.

THE Managers of the STATE LOTTERY, preſent the Public with the Firſt Claſs of the *Maſſachuſetts ſemi-annual State Lottery*, which will commence drawing in the *Repreſentatives' Chamber*, in Boſton, on the Seventeenth of *March* next, *or ſooner*, if the Tickets ſhall be diſpoſed of.

SCHEME.

NOT TWO BLANKS TO A PRIZE.

25,000 Tickets, at *Five Dollars* each, are 125,000 Dollars, to be paid in the following Prizes, ſubject to a deduction of *twelve and an half per cent.* for the uſe of the Commonwealth.

Prizes.		*Dollars.*		*Dollars,*
1	of	10000	is	10000
2		3000	are	6000
3		2000		6000
6		1000		6000
10		500		5000
30		200		6000
80		100		8000
90		50		4500
100		40		4000
120		30		3600
161		20		3220
200		10		2000
7585		8		60680
8388 Prizes.				125000
16612 Blanks.				
25000.				

☞ TICKETS may be had of the ſeveral Managers, who will pay the Prizes *on demand*—of the TREASURER of the Commonwealth—of JAMES WHITE, at his Book-Store, *Franklin's-Head, Court-Street*, and at other places as uſual.

BENJAMIN AUSTIN, jun.
DAVID COBB,
SAMUEL COOPER,
GEORGE R. MINOT,
JOHN KNEELAND,
} Managers.

Boſton, July 28, 8790.

PURSUANT to a Reſolve or act of Congreſs of the 10th day of May, 1780, relative to the deſtruction of Loan-Office Certificates by accident; notice is hereby given to all whom it may concern, that on the 2d day of January 1780, the houſe occupied by the ſubſcriber in Market-Street, Philadelphia, took fire and was conſumed, in which was lodged a number of Loan-Office certificates as pr. liſt below, all which were deſtroyed by the ſaid fire: Therefore if any perſon, hath any objection why the ſaid Certificates ſhould not be renewed, agreeable to the reſolves of Congreſs, they muſt make them before the expiration of three months, from the date hereof.

Invoice of Loan-Office Certificates deſtroyed in the houſe of John Holker on the 2d day of January 1780.

1778.	No.			Dols.
March 13.	1636	1	Samuel Cooke, jun. New-York,	600
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In teſtimony whereof I have ſigned the preſent for publication. HOLKER.

New-York, July 26th, 1790.

JOHN FRANCIS,

Late of NEW-YORK, reſpectfully informs the public, that he has opened a

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WHERE Gentlemen may be accommodated with
GENTEEL BOARDING AND LODGING,
By the *Week*, *Month*, or *Year*, and on the moſt moderate terms.
Phila. Nov. 20, 1790.——[2aw.3m.]

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